



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Eiji TSURU

Group Art Unit: 3617

Application No.: 10/089,243

Examiner: R. Stormer

Filed: June 7 2002

Docket No.: 112410

For: ELASTIC ENDLESS CRAWLER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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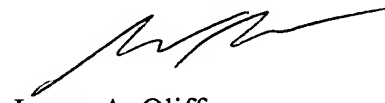
In reply to the Restriction Requirement mailed May 21, 2003, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-16, drawn to an endless crawler belt. In reply to the Election of Species Requirement mailed May 21, 2003, Applicant provisionally elects Species I, Figures 1-6. Applicant submits that claims 1-10 read on elected Species I. The elections are made with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all groups/species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of the elected group/species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining groups/species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which is stated that "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent

inventions." (Emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-25 can be examined without undue burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Restriction Requirement and the Election of Species Requirement be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 19, 2003

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